

Introduced by Senators Burton, Alarcon, Chesbro, Dunn, Escutia, Figueroa, Florez, Karnette, Kuehl, Ortiz, Romero, Scott, and Torlakson

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Berg, Canciamilla, Chavez, Chu, Corbett, Dymally, Firebaugh, Goldberg, Hancock, Jerome Horton, Koretz, Laird, Leno, Levine, Lieber, Liu, Longville, Lowenthal, Montanez, Mullin, Nunez, Pavley, Reyes, Salinas, Steinberg, Vargas, Wesson, Wiggins, and Yee)

April 10, 2003

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 20—Relative to the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 20, as introduced, Burton. The Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride.

This measure would endorse the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride and its goals; support and assist the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride in the state; and call on county, city, and city and county executive and legislative bodies throughout the state to adopt this same measure.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, California's history is synonymous with
2 immigration of people from the nations around the world; and

3 WHEREAS, California has, and will continue to have for the
4 foreseeable future, the largest immigrant population in the United
5 States; and

6 WHEREAS, Immigration is essential to the state's economic
7 growth, its social and cultural diversity, and the vitality of its civic
8 life; and

1 WHEREAS, The security of our state is best protected when no
2 one is forced to live in fear because of his or her immigration
3 status; and

4 WHEREAS, The interests of the state are not served by the
5 current immigration law which does the following:

6 (a) Offers no opportunity for many hard working, taxpaying
7 immigrant residents to become legal residents, and eventually,
8 citizens, of the United States.

9 (b) Imposes many hardships on immigrant families wishing to
10 reunite in this state.

11 (c) Fails to protect the workplace rights of immigrants who are
12 investing their labor in the state's economy; and

13 WHEREAS, A national mobilization of individuals and
14 organizations that already support immigration reform, from the
15 United States Chamber of Commerce to the NAACP and the
16 AFL-CIO, from democratic and republican elected officials to the
17 National Immigration Forum and National Council of La Raza, is
18 necessary to restore the momentum for policy change that was
19 swept aside by the tragic events of September 11, 2001; and

20 WHEREAS, The Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride, which
21 will set out from eight major cities in the United States and cross
22 the country in buses in the fall of 2003, and culminate in
23 delegations meeting Members of Congress in Washington, DC,
24 and a mass show of support for immigrant workers in New York
25 City, will be a powerful vehicle to demonstrate the existence of a
26 broad national constituency for meaningful immigration reform;
27 now, therefore, be it

28 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
29 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby does all of the
30 following:

31 (a) Endorses the Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride (IWFR)
32 and its goals.

33 (b) Supports and assists the organization of the Immigrant
34 Workers Freedom Ride in the State of California.

35 (c) Calls on county and city executive and legislative bodies
36 throughout the state to adopt similar resolutions; and be it further

37 *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
38 this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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